

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

Greenbelt Division

MICHELLE L. WHITE,

Plaintiff,

V.

Civil Action No.: JFM 03 CV 26

**GLOBAL COMMERCE AND
INFORMATION, INC.,**

Defendant.

**STIPULATED ORDER REGARDING
CONFIDENTIALITY OF DISCOVERY MATERIAL
(Local Rule 104.13)**

Whereas, the parties have stipulated that certain discovery material be treated as confidential;

Accordingly, it is this _____ day of _____, 2003, by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, ORDERED:

1. Designation of Discovery Materials as Confidential. All documents produced in the course of discovery, all answers to interrogatories, all answers to request for admission, all responses to requests for production of documents, and all deposition

testimony and deposition exhibits shall be subject to this Order concerning confidential information, as set forth below:

(a) The designation of confidential information shall be made by placing or affixing on the document, in a manner which will not interfere with its legibility, the word "CONFIDENTIAL." One who provides material may designate it as confidential only when such person in good faith believes it contains sensitive personal information, trade secrets or other confidential research, development, or commercial information. Except for documents produced for inspection at the party's facilities, the designation of confidential information shall be made prior to, or contemporaneously with, the production or disclosure of that information. In the event that documents are produced for inspection at the party's facilities, such documents may be produced for inspection before being marked confidential. Once specific documents have been designated for copying, any documents containing confidential information will then be marked confidential after copying but before delivery to the party who inspected and designated the documents. There will be no waiver of confidentiality by the inspection of confidential documents before they are copied and marked confidential pursuant to this procedure.

(b) Portions of depositions of a party's present and former officers, directors, employees, agents, experts, and representatives shall be deemed confidential only if they are designated as such when the deposition is taken or within seven business days after receipt of the transcript. Any testimony which describes a document which has been designated as "CONFIDENTIAL", as described above, shall also be deemed to be designated as "CONFIDENTIAL".

(c) Information or documents designated as confidential under this Order shall not be used or disclosed by the parties or counsel for the parties or any persons identified in subparagraph (d) below for any purposes whatsoever other than preparing for and conducting the litigation in which the information or documents were disclosed (including appeals). The parties shall not disclose information or documents designated as confidential to putative class members not named as plaintiffs in putative class litigation unless and until one or more classes has/have been certified.

(d) The parties and counsel for the parties shall not disclose or permit the disclosure of any documents or information designated as confidential under this Order to any other person or entity, except that disclosures may be made in the following circumstances:

(i) Disclosure may be made to counsel and employees of counsel for the parties who have direct functional responsibility for the preparation and trial of the lawsuit. Any such employee to whom counsel for the parties makes a disclosure shall be provided with a copy of, and become subject to, the provisions of this Order requiring that the documents and information be held in confidence.

(ii) Disclosure may be made only to employees of a party required in good faith to provide assistance in the conduct of the litigation in which the information was disclosed.

(iii) Disclosure may be made to court reporters engaged for depositions and those persons, if any, specifically engaged for the limited purpose of making photocopies of documents. Prior to disclosure to any such court reporter or person

engaged in making photocopies of documents, such person must agree to be bound by the terms of this Order.

(iv) Disclosure may be made to consultants, investigators, or experts (hereinafter referred to collectively as “experts”) employed by the parties or counsel for the parties to assist in the preparation and trial of the lawsuit. Prior to disclosure to any expert, the expert must be informed of and agree in writing to be subject to the provisions of this Order requiring that the documents and information be held in confidence.

(v) If a party determines a need to disclose protected material to a third party during the course of discovery in this litigation who is not listed in sections (i) - (iv) above, that party shall seek the consent of the producing party in advance of such disclosure requesting that the producing party allow an exception to the protective order permitting the third party to be shown protected material. If the producing party refuses to consent to the disclosure, the party seeking to disclose the material may present the matter to the Court seeking permission for the disclosure.

(e) Except as provided in subparagraph (d) above, counsel for the parties shall keep all documents designated as confidential which are received under this Order secure within their exclusive possession and shall take reasonable efforts to place such documents in a secure area.

(f) All copies, duplicates, extracts, summaries, or descriptions (hereinafter referred to collectively as “copies”) of documents or information designated as confidential under this Order or any portion thereof, shall be immediately affixed with the word “CONFIDENTIAL” if that word does not already appear.

2. Confidential Information Filed with Court. To the extent that any materials subject to this Confidentiality Order (or any pleading, motion or memorandum referring to them) are proposed to be filed or are filed with the Court, those materials and papers, or any portion thereof which discloses confidential information, shall be filed under seal (by the filing party) with the Clerk of the Court in an envelope marked 'SEALED PURSUANT TO ORDER OF COURT DATED _____', together with a simultaneous motion pursuant to L.R. 104.13(c) (hereinafter the "Interim Sealing Motion"). The Interim Sealing Motion shall be governed by L.R. 105.11. (*See* attached Exhibit A). Even if the filing party believes that the materials subject to the Confidentiality Order are not properly classified as confidential, the filing party shall file the Interim Sealing Motion; provided, however, that the filing of the Interim Sealing Motion shall be wholly without prejudice to the filing party's rights under ¶ 4 of this Confidentiality Order.

3. Party Seeking Greater Protection Must Obtain Further Order. No information may be withheld from discovery on the ground that the material to be disclosed requires protection greater than that afforded by paragraph 1 of this Order unless the party claiming a need for greater protection moves for an order providing such special protection pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c).

4. Challenging Designation of Confidentiality. A designation of confidentiality may be challenged upon motion. The burden of proving the confidentiality of designated information remains with the party asserting such confidentiality.

5. Return of Confidential Material at Conclusion of Litigation. At the conclusion of the litigation, all material treated as confidential under this Order and not received in evidence shall be returned to the originating party. If the parties so stipulate, the material may be destroyed instead of being returned. The Clerk of the Court may return to counsel for the parties, or destroy, any sealed material at the end of the litigation, including any appeals.

/s/ Gary L. Lieber

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United States [District] [Magistrate] Judge

Exhibit A

ORDER SEALING PORTIONS OF THE COURT RECORD

(Local Rule 105.11)

Whereas, the parties have filed a Joint Motion seeking a Protective Order Sealing Portions of the Court Record (the “Joint Motion”);

Whereas, in the Joint Motion, the parties have “proposed reasons supported by specific factual representations to justify the [requested] sealing”, in accordance with L.R. 105.11;

Whereas, the parties have identified the following portion of the record as that portion which is subject to the Joint Motion [describe with particularity the portion to be sealed](the “Sealed Record”);

Whereas, the court has considered the Joint Motion and any opposition thereto;

Whereas, the court has not ruled on the Joint Motion for at least 14 days after it was entered on the public court docket to permit the filing of objections by interested parties;

Whereas, the Court has considered any objections by interested parties, pursuant to L.R. 105.11;

Whereas, the parties have stated in the Joint Motion why alternatives to sealing would not provide sufficient protection;

Whereas, the court finds and holds that alternatives to sealing would not provide sufficient protection;

Whereas, the court finds and holds that sealing of a portion and/or portions of the record, specified herein, is appropriate;

Accordingly, it is this ____ day of _____, 2003, by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, ORDERED:

1. That the Joint Motion for Protective Order Sealing Portions of the Record be, and the same hereby is, GRANTED, as specifically set forth herein;

2. That the Sealed Record (as defined above) be, and hereby is, PLACED UNDER SEAL by the Clerk of the Court and that the Sealed Record shall be placed in an envelope or other container which is marked "SEALED, SUBJECT TO ORDER OF COURT DATED _____."

3. A copy of this Order shall be mailed to all counsel of record and to any other person entitled to notice hereof, and shall be docketed in the Court file.

UNITED STATES [DISTRICT][MAGISTRATE]JUDGE